



# The Australasian Native Orchid Society The Warringah Group Inc.

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**CORRESPONDENCE:**

PO Box 421, Forestville NSW 2087

**Monthly Meetings:**

3rd Tuesday each month at 8:00 pm - Senior Citizens Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville. NSW 2087

## January 2026



*Calanthe triplicata* Bill Dobson



*Cadetia taylori* - ex Mt Edith FNQ Bill Dobson



*Dendrobium lichenastrum* Bill Dobson

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday 20th January**

**Cultural Discussion**



## Cranky Old Man

What do you see nurses? ..... What do you see?  
What are you thinking ..... when you're looking at me?  
A cranky old man, ..... not very wise, Uncertain of habit ..... with faraway eyes?  
Who dribbles his food ..... and makes no reply.  
When you say in a loud voice ... 'I do wish you'd try!'  
Who seems not to notice ..... the things that you do.  
And forever is losing ..... a sock or shoe?  
Who, resisting or not ..... lets you do as you will, With bathing and feeding,  
..... the long day to fill?  
Is that what you're thinking? .... Is that what you see?  
Then open your eyes, nurse .... you're not looking at me.  
I'll tell you who I am ..... as I sit here so still, As I do at your bidding,  
..... as I eat at your will.  
I'm a small child of Ten ..... with a father and mother, brothers and sisters,  
..... who love one another A young boy of Sixteen,  
..... with wings on his feet dreaming that soon now,  
..... a lover he'll meet.  
A groom soon at twenty ..... my heart gives a leap.  
Remembering, the vows ..... that I promised to keep.  
At Twenty-Five, now ..... I have young of my own.  
Who need me to guide ..... and a secure happy home.  
A man of Thirty ..... my young now grown fast, bound to each other,  
..... with ties that should last.  
At Forty, my young sons ..... have grown and are gone, but my woman is beside me  
..... to see I don't mourn.  
At Fifty, once more, ..... babies play 'round my knee, again, we know children  
..... my loved one and me.  
Dark days are upon me ..... my wife is now dead.  
I look at the future ..... I shudder with dread.  
For my young are all rearing ..... young of their own.  
And I think of the years ..... and the love that I've known.  
I'm now an old man ..... and nature is cruel.  
It's jest to make old age ..... look like a fool.  
The body, it crumbles ..... grace and vigour, depart.  
There is now a stone ..... where I once had a heart.  
But inside this old carcass ..... a young man still dwells, and now and again,  
..... my battered heart swells I remember the joys,  
..... I remember the pain.  
And I'm loving and living ..... life over again.  
I think of the years, all too few . gone too fast.  
And accept the stark fact ..... that nothing can last.  
So open your eyes, people ..... open and see.  
Not a cranky old man ..... look closer ..... see ..... ME!!

## *Sarcochilus eriochilus*

This lithophytic species was originally described as a variety of *Sarcochilus ceciliae*. It differs in having significantly smaller blooms (6 mm) that are always very pale pink; the plant habit is also much finer with narrow leaves.

It has a disjunct distribution from Gympie to Toowoomba district and McPherson Range in Queensland, from the Border Ranges, Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, Glenugie Peak (near Grafton) to Ellenborough Falls at the headwaters of the Manning River in New South Wales. Flowers from November to January.

Australian Orchid Review ..... DPB





## In my Bushhouse

What a country we live in huge temperatures and fires over in Western Australia and South Australia, floods and a cyclone in Queensland. While in Sydney and a lot of NSW suffer record temperatures. However, for me the temperature yesterday was hot but not a record. We had 46° C under 50% shade cloth in the Southern end of the bushhouse while the Northern end under 2 layers of 30% had 44° C. No plants were lost as I had sprayed in the morning, and when the sun went down I misted all the plants.

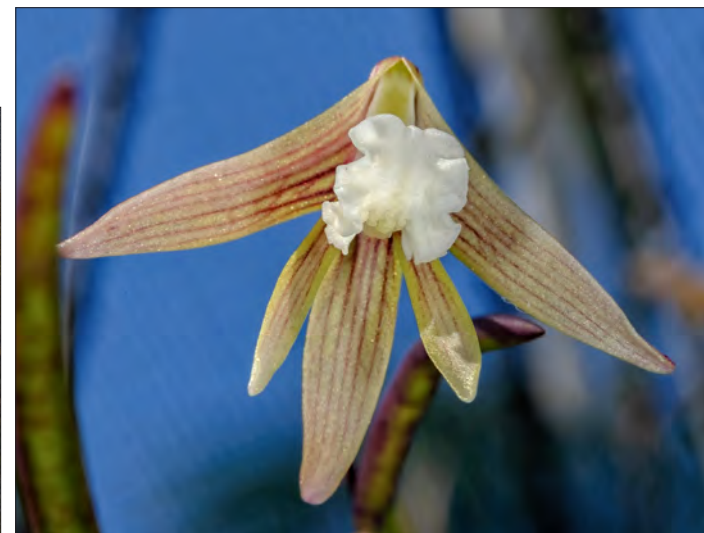
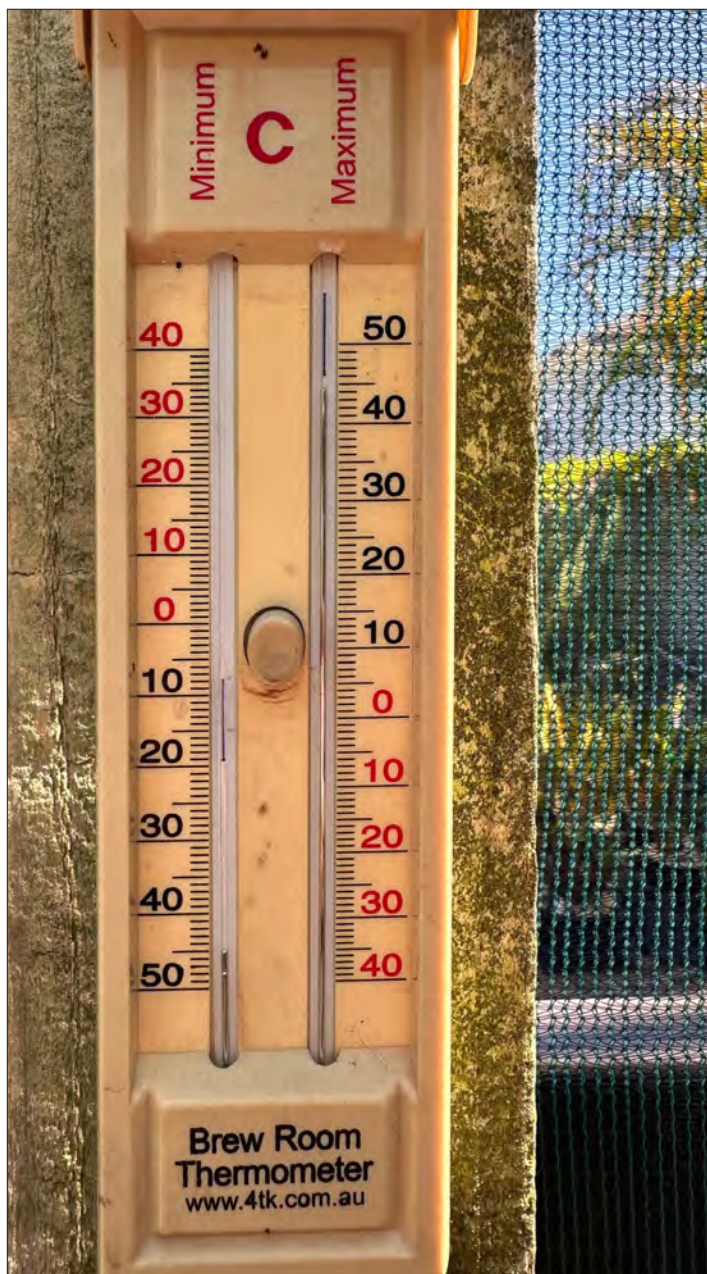
Outside the bushhouse not so good. I had sprayed with Envy so plants would not lose too much moisture and nearly all were in prime condition except for *Laelia purpurata* which I had taken onto the deck and remained there, while flowering for 3 weeks. Lots of burnt leaves. All my *Dendrobium speciosum* and others were fine. These warmer temperatures has signalled most *Dendrobium* species and hybrids to throw new growths. Things look good, and that's the time to worry as the insects and plant eating grubs seem to think that this smorgasbord is meant for them so be on your guard.

I continue to fertilize all the plants and also sprayed with Carbaryl for the *Dendrobium* beetle which I know will be out with the warmer weather. Unfortunately for those with plants outside will have to continue spraying every 3 weeks until the growths have completely hardened off. I also spray my sacrificial *Epidendrum* which I got from Sid Batchelor many years ago and, like Sid, I have this at the entrance to my bushhouse and look at this every time I go in there.

Time to also do some maintenance around the bushhouse as the sun in Australia continues to wreak havoc with UV rays and degrading any poly/plastic fittings. The latest item to need replacing were cable ties, even the UV stabilised ones will need replacement eventually and they can be obtained from Bunnings relatively cheap. Next was the clamps that clamp the poly irrigation pipe that I used as not only are they subject to UV but the tension that they are subjected to in order to clamp the piping under pressure. This probably occupied me for half a day, and you wonder where the time has gone. Some sprinklers had to be removed and cleaned. Now all working fine.

Flowering now are *Sarcochilus eriochilus*, *hillii*, and *setosus*, *Cadetia taylori*, *Dendrobium prenticei*, *lichenastrum*.

Bill Dobson



*Dockrillia banksii (striolata)* Bill Dobson

A random single flower from a large plant in this weird weather we are having. Also a single flower from *Dockrillia schoenina*. Isn't nature wonderful.



*Sarcochilus setosus* Bill Dobson



## ANOS Warringah Monthly Benching Results - 2025

### Point Score and Benching

1st	David Hemmings
2nd	Erik Lielkajis.
3rd	Richard Blaxland
4th	Ela Kielich
5th	Li Shan
6th	L & B Dobson
7th	Cary Polis
8th	P & J D'Olier
9th	Judith Barry
10th	Guy Cantor
	G & S Russell
	Trish Peterson
	Rev. Peter Dunstan
	I & I Chalmers
	Mark Asbury
	Ian Tanner
	Clover Bradley
	Joy Gouvoussis
	Ros Mathews
	Steve Dunstan
	Chris Murray
	Thanh Mai
	Bryanna Whittaker
	Martin Davies
	John McAuley

### Novice Point Score

Equal First. Lynn Dabbs and Tim Dabbs.

### Members Sarcochilus Show

1st.	Clover Bradley
2nd	L&B Dobson
3rd	Trish Peterson

### Point score Winner David Hemmings

**Iris Pendle Memorial Trophy.** L & B Dobson

**Joan Cook Memorial Trophy.** Mick Korzenowski



*Liparis coelogynoides* Trish Peterson





## *Sarcochilus setosus*

D.L. Jones, M.A. Clements & D.P. Banks

Recently described (2018) north-east Queensland species, that is a member of the *Sarcochilus ceciliae* complex. This new species was discovered by David Banks and Michael Harrison on 19th September 2009, growing on granite. Together, they had been looking for *Sarcochilus roseus*, in one of the locations mentioned by Steve Clemesha in his 1969 description and discussion of this species.

As the plants were not in flower at the time, Banks and Harrison assumed they had indeed found *Sarcochilus roseus*, particularly in light of the stiffly erect plant habit and unspotted leaves. The following day, they took local naturalist James Walker to the site, and more plants of this lithophyte were located. All noted the unusual number of aerial plantlets on the previous season's spent inflorescences, a feature not mentioned in Clemesha's original descriptions in 1967 (as *Sarcochilus ceciliae* subsp. *roseus*) and 1969 (as *Sarcochilus roseus*).

When this species was first observed in bloom, it was clear that this was not *Sarcochilus roseus*, but something new. I then contacted Steve Clemesha and sent him images of the flowers. He agreed that it was a distinctive *Sarcochilus* that he had not seen before. Apparently, Clemesha had collected plants from Tully Falls in the late 1960s, but they died without blooming, and he assumed they were *Sarcochilus roseus*, purely on the growth habit and unspotted leaves. It took over 50 years before the real status of this *Sarcochilus* was unravelled. Only a few bright pink, distinctive flowers are open at once; others opening as the inflorescence extends, producing up to 20 flowers sporadically over a short period. The shortly crenulate/dentate distal margins of the petals are also noteworthy.

Each flower lasts 5-7 days. The labellum is white, densely covered with long white needle-like hairs. Aerial growths often form at the end of the inflorescence after blooming but initiating whilst the distal flowers are still fresh. Flowers from December to March.

DPB ... Australian Orchid Review January 2020

In 2011 while on our Queensland sabbatical we visited Tully Falls, a place not for the faint hearted, we had been there previously and while there we were looking for nothing in particular when 'eagle-eye' Mick spied what we thought was a small plant of *Sarcochilus ceciliae*. When it flowered I called David and that's when he advise that he knew of it and it was with a botanist to be named as a new species. Bill Dobson





*Plectorrhiza brevilabris* Trish Peterson

## ***Plectorrhiza brevilabris***

*Plectorrhiza brevilabris*, commonly known as the small tangle orchid, is endemic to Australia. It has many coarse, wiry roots, between three and nine bright green leaves and up to twenty green, star-shaped flowers with reddish brown markings and a white patch on the labellum. It grows in rainforest on trees, shrubs and occasionally on rocks and occurs on the near coastal ranges of eastern Queensland.

*Plectorrhiza brevilabris* grows in rainforest on small trees, shrubs and the thinner branches of larger trees. It is found in the McIlwraith Range and in near coastal ranges and tableland south to the Noosa River.

In 1967 Alick Dockrill changed the name to *Plectorrhiza brevilabris*. The specific epithet (*brevilabris*) is derived from the Latin words brevis meaning "short" and labrum meaning "lip"

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## ***Liparis coelogynoides***

*Liparis coelogynoides*, commonly known as the fairy sphinx orchid, is endemic to near-coastal eastern Australia. It is an epiphytic orchid with two leaves joined at the base and that grows in clumps. Greenish white or yellowish flowers are borne on an often hanging spike. It grows on trees and cliff faces usually on ranges near the coast of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland.

The fairy sphinx orchid was first formally described in 1860 by Ferdinand von Mueller who gave it the name *Sturmia coelogynoides* and published the description in *Fragmenta phytographiae Australiae*. The description was based on a collection made by Ludwig Becker near the headwaters of the Clarence River.[5][6] In 1873, George Bentham changed the name to *Liparis coelogynoides* and published the change in *Flora Australiensis*. The specific epithet (*coelogynoides*) refers to the similarity of this species to orchids in the genus *Coelogyne* - the ending -oides is a Latin suffix meaning "like", "resembling" or "having the form of"

*Liparis coelogynoides* is widespread and common, growing on trees and rocky escarpments in rainforest between the Bunya Mountains in Queensland and the Hunter River in New South Wales

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Green Metallic Woodcutter Bee - North head, Sydney Bill Dobson